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The People.

THE PEOPLE
Can be had hereafter from any news dealer in
GREATER NEW YORK
on FRIDAY morning. See that your news-dealer gives it a prominent place on his stand.

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FOR THE 100,000.

Rhode Island First in the Field for the '98 Campaign.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 27.—Rhode Island will have the honor of firing the opening gun of the campaign of 1898. Although the State is small, we can safely predict that she will cut out a pace which, if followed by the other organized States, will find the battle ground of the party, after the smoke of November's contests has cleared away, in a position above the 100,000 mark.

The party in Rhode Island has girded its loins for the elections which will take place on Wednesday, April 6th. The following are our color bearers for the State:

STATE TICKET.
Governor:
JAMES P. REID.
Lieutenant Governor:
MOSES FASSEL.
Secretary of State:
JOHN DEVLIN.
Attorney-General:
LAWRENCE LEE.
General Treasurer:
HENRY STARRE.

The city of Providence has the following ticket:

Senator:
FRANKLIN E. BURTON.

Representatives: George A. Ballard, Otto Colmetz, Peter McDermott, Ernest Sherwood, Benjamin Gershanick, Anthony McDonald, Joseph Wittum, Thos. F. Herrick, John W. Thornton, Adolph Guldbrandsen, James McGuigan, Edward W. Theinert.

Section Pawtucket is in the field as follows:

PAWTUCKET ASSEMBLY TICKET.
Senator:
JOHN W. STEVENSON.

Representatives: Matthew Curran, John H. Barker, Luther G. Jowett, Christopher C. Chalk, Joseph Rioux, Charles H. Dana.

Section Johnstone's candidates are:

Senator:
JOHN W. FLETCHER.

Representatives: R. W. Roxburgh and Herman Baumgartel.

NEWARK, N. J., CAMPAIGN.

Municipal Platform of the Socialist Labor Party.

Fellow-wageworkers:—The Socialist Labor party again calls your attention to the fact that land and capital, the tools of production and distribution, without which we cannot live as civilized beings, are in the hands of the capitalist class. As a consequence, you are forced to sell your labor to that class for wages. Your wages are determined by and through the operation of the law of supply and demand. When the supply exceeds the demand your wages, the price of labor, declines. We now see in all industries an ever-increasing use of machinery, which displaces thousands of workingmen, thereby increasing the supply of labor out of all proportion to the demand.

The consequence is that the wages of labor, its price, steadily declines under Republican as well as Democratic administrations, and will continue to do so as long as the capitalist system lasts.

Hence, we propose the only possible remedy, the public ownership of land and capital. To establish a co-operative commonwealth, in which the machinery of production and distribution shall be owned and operated in the interest of the whole Nation, is the mission of the Socialist Labor party.

The class interests of capitalists are such that they will as a class oppose this proposition.

All capitalists are united, and so, therefore, are their parties, be they Democratic, Republican or Prohibition, on the fundamental principle of capitalistic policy that labor must be bought at its exchange value, while its use value is by them exploited. In other words, that the capitalist system must be upheld. On the other hand, the interests of all useful workers are alike everywhere, at all times and under all circumstances. It is plain that each and every worker for wages, be his occupation intellectual or manual, has direct interest in gaining the political power; not to be used against one another, but against all political parties of the capitalists. Working class politics, National, State and city, must be our rallying cry until we wrest the powers of government from the capitalist class and establish the co-operative commonwealth. In accordance with this belief, we present our city programme.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

WHEREAS, Enforced idleness, resulting from the constant displacement of labor by machinery without any provision for the re-employment of the displaced workers, is to a steadily growing extent the chief evil of the capitalist system; its effects being most felt in cities, our financial resources, even if they were vastly greater than they now are, may vainly be exhausted in public charities for the relief of misery or in police and prison expenditures for the repression of immorality and crime.

RESOLVED, That in dealing with the municipal questions forced upon their consideration by all the social evils which naturally flow from enforced idleness, the Socialist officials shall never fail to remind the people of the fact that the unemployed need only free access to the means of production and distribution, socially owned and operated, in order to provide for themselves a far better living than they could obtain in the service of capitalists; and that, until such free access is provided by the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth, all they can do is to liberally grant funds for the immediate relief of the distressed, and the employment of the idle on public works and in municipal industries.

MUNICIPAL FRANCHISES.

WHEREAS, The privilege of performing certain public services and functions, involving the use of public property and the exercises of the public right to levy taxes (in the various forms of dues, fares, rentals, etc.), upon the persons to which such necessary services are rendered, has been unduly and corruptly granted to private corporations, who have used and abused the said privilege for their own unlimited enrichment, watered their stocks in order to conceal their scandalous profit, violated their charters and contracts, evaded taxation, and sacrificed human life to their greed.

RESOLVED, That every official elected by the Socialist Labor party shall, within the sphere of his functions, diligently work for the absolute and unconditional recovery, by the city, of the municipal franchises, privileges, rights and property that have already been alienated to private corporations, and against any further such grant or alienation under any circumstances or upon any conditions whatsoever; to the end that all such franchises be operated by the city.

WHEREAS, It has heretofore been the practice of the municipal bodies to carry on their affairs on the so-called "business principles" of capitalism, namely, high salaries, fees or perquisites for the idle bosses, and low wages for the industrious employees; so that the worker in the public service is, like the worker in private employment, robbed of three-quarters of the value produced by his manual or intellectual exertions;

RESOLVED, That Socialist officials shall vigorously urge the application of the fundamental principles of the Co-operative Commonwealth to all municipal services, as far as possible under present conditions. They shall, in particular, insist upon the following demands:

1—The election by the employees, of their respective foremen, superintendent and other officers not elected by a general vote of the people.

2—A minimum salary supplemented by an equal distribution, among the employees, of a portion of the surplus value (or profit) which, produced by their joint labor, is now appropriated by the directors and stockholders of corporations.

3—Another portion of the surplus shall be applied to the maintenance and extension of the said public services, the price of which shall be reduced to the people to the extent of the saving permanently effected by mechanical and other improvements.

HOMES FOR THE PEOPLE.

WHEREAS, Every improvement in transportation, communication and public service of any kind, by raising the value of real estate, has merely enabled the landlords to extract higher rents, besides affording enlarged opportunities to the mercantile class for trading upon the necessities of the population; and

WHEREAS, This class confiscation of benefits that should be equally shared in by all classes, will of necessity continue so long as the people remain at the mercy of landlords and traders for shelter, substance and fuel;

RESOLVED, That the municipality shall by a proper exercise of the right of eminent domain, acquire all the vacant lots and land within its boundaries, for the purpose of erecting thereon comfortable houses to be let out to working people at rentals, calculated on cost of building, annual repairs and administrative expenses.

RESOLVED, That the Socialist officials shall favor the establishment of municipal coal yards, drug stores and other municipal agencies for supplying the people with necessities at cost prices.

TAXATION.

The object of taxation, under a capitalistic administration, is to supply the means of carrying on the government in the interest of the capitalistic class. Under an administration controlled by Socialists so long as capitalism survives, taxation remains necessary, but its object should be to restitute to the workers in the form of public benefits as great a portion as possible of the wealth produced by them and appropriated by their fleecers.

Again, under the capitalistic administration, taxation is unequal, the greater, and therefore more influential capitalists paying less in proportion to their wealth than their weaker fellows. In Newark, as in nearly all other parts of the Union, real estate is assessed at considerably less than its actual value, yet bears nearly the whole "public burden" so called; while personal property, consisting in all forms of wealth other than real estate, and chiefly owned by millionaire bankers, stockholders, merchants, railway magnates, etc., almost entirely escapes taxation through perjury and official connivance. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Socialist officials shall by all means in their power compel the assessors to do their full duty, by assessing every kind of property at its full value.

RESOLVED, That the poll tax be abolished.

EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, In the city of Newark large numbers of children are deprived of education partly because of the woeful lack of school accommodations, and in still greater part because of the squalid poverty to which their parents have been reduced by low wages and enforced idleness;

RESOLVED, That Socialist officials shall constantly keep in view the necessity of providing most effectively for the compulsory education of all chil-

(Continued on Page 3.)

IN NEW BEDFORD.

Figures and Facts on the Class Struggle Going on There.

Gorgeous Dividends on one Hand, Starvation on the other—A Medieval Combat: Knights (Capitalists), Well Armed, Fighting Serfs (Working Class) Naked.

A touching appeal for aid for the 9,000 New Bedford, Mass., strikers, sent out by the Joint Strike Committee, William Cunane, Secretary, Box 332, New Bedford, Mass., contains the following thrilling and eloquent passage and facts:

"On the 17th of January last 9,000 cotton operatives in this city struck work against a proposed 10 per cent. reduction of wages.

"A strike in mid-winter is a fearful and terrible thing, but when 9,000 men and women quit work simultaneously, in the face of hardships, suffering and privations, intensified by the severity of winter, there must be some good ground for such action.

"For the year just ended, 1897, the mills concerned paid the following dividends:

"Potomska	Nothing.
"Dartmouth	Nothing.
"Whitman	1½ per cent.
"Bristol	5 per cent.
"Wamsutta	6 per cent.
"Pierce	6 per cent.
"Grinnell	9 per cent.
"Hathaway	10 per cent.
"Acushnet	16 per cent.

"The Potomska is an old mill, and during the past year has made extensive changes in machinery and motive power. The Dartmouth is a new mill, having been less than a year in full and complete operation. The Whitman is also a new mill, and owes its present unsatisfactory condition entirely to the defalcations of the men who were financiering the mill. Of the remaining mills they have an acknowledged capital of $6,200,000, and an average dividend for 1897 of 7.6 per cent.

"The last named of these mills, the Acushnet, during the eight years from 1889 to 1896 inclusive, paid in

"Dividends	$710,389.94
"Repaid to stockholders	500,000.00
"Added to depreciation	10,169.74
"Total profit	$1,220,558.70
"An average of	$152,569.84 per year
"Or	$2,934.00 per week.

"In 1896, their acknowledged profits amounted to slightly over $3128 per week, or more than the aggregate wages of the 400 weavers which that corporation employs—besides paying extravagant salaries ranging from $5,000 to $20,000 to 'agent,' 'treasurer' and 'board of directors.'

"Every corporation in this city has the advantage of the same locality, same wages, same running expenses, same class of help, same markets for the raw material and finished products as the Acushnet mills, and if the same profits are not being made it is due entirely to watered stock, to the misuse of funds, or to the mismanagement of the mills.

"The only argument advanced by the manufacturers thus far, as to why they wish to reduce wages has been: 'That the other New England manufacturers have reduced wages, and we intend to do the same.' And the only argument advanced as to why we should accept the reduction has been 'That the winter is upon us, and we would suffer severely in case of strike.'

"After considering all the circumstances the spinners, by only four dissenting votes, and the weavers by only five dissenting votes, decided to strike, the remainder of the organizations taking similar unanimous action, which action being heartily endorsed by all unorganized workers, with the stated result that 9,000 men and women are now idle, 8,500 of which have no other means of support than that which is received from outside sources.

"Nearly nine weeks have gone by (March 15th) since the inauguration of the strike, funds have long since become exhausted, whilst contributions on behalf of the strikers have not averaged more than 25 cents per head per week. The suffering has become intense, whilst applications for relief to the poor department have increased sevenfold. The soup kitchens, which have been the mainstay of the strike, feeding over 2,000 people daily, have become overtaxed, and we cannot longer close our eyes to the fact that some four hundred families, comprising two thousand men, women and children, are daily in receipt of insufficient quantities of good wholesome food to satisfy the cravings and the demands of nature; in other words, in the plainest of plain English, are being slowly starved to death.

"The manufacturers are fully alive to that fact, and are waiting with patience and confidence the time when large sections of the strikers will only be too glad for an opportunity to return to work upon any conditions that may be offered. Unless help is received, and that promptly, that time is not far distant, for the various committees readily perceive that they cannot conscientiously advise the greater body of the strikers to remain firm when such terrible punishment is being dealt out to other large numbers of the strikers and their families."

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

S. T. & L. A.

Yeoman's Work it is Doing for the Class-Conscious Mouvement.

Six Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance Local Organized in Fulton County, N. Y., of Leather Workers in the Midst of a Strike.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., March 25.—Here we have a city, the population of which is ninety-nine hundred per cent. workingmen; whose daily labor is their income; and yet, divided as they have allowed their strength to filter through their fingers' ends. As production progressed, so did their wages fall, until they reached that stage where they were obliged to call a halt. They proceeded to organize upon the pure and simple basis of unionism, in which politics are ignored, and class-consciousness is ignored, and the mechanism of the capitalist and wage slavery system are ignored, and in which the worker is stuffed full of errors and illusions.

When they organized their pure and simple union they took in only one branch of the leather industry, thereby displaying a total ignorance of dependence of all other branches one upon the other. And when they thought that their organization was complete, they struck. The result was that after six weeks' starving they were at the mercy of the employers. On that day Comrade Charles S. Vander Porten arrived here with a commission from the New York State Committee of the Socialist Labor party and of the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance. The strikers were about to give up the fight. His addresses and rapid organization of local trade Alliances of other branches of the hide-tanning and glove-making trade into the S. T. & L. A. speedily inspired the men with new courage as they got new light. He took charge of the strike in the name of the Socialist Labor party and Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

What a change came over these men when they realized that there was another body back of them! What a change came over the workers in the other branches of the industry when they saw that a political party was organizing the men and trying to help them in their battle. They came flocking to the banner of that party; they came to join their hands to those of the strikers. To-day, with the exception of only one branch of the industry, the entire leatherworkers of Gloversville are in the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, and, as a result of that, an American Branch of the party was organized with eighteen members, which in a month will number fifty.

The Socialists held six meetings with one speaker, and "each meeting was packed denser than the preceding one"—so the papers themselves had to admit; and they added that "the question of supporting the economic efforts of the workers with their political power has met with general approval among the workingmen." This is so much so that it would hardly be safe for an old style British pure and simpler trade unionist leader to come now to town.

After holding six meetings, the interest of the working people was so great that when, two days later, Comrade Sanial arrived here, he found an enthusiastic, thinking audience awaiting him in one of the largest halls which was packed to the doors.

The fever spread to Johnstown, a few miles from here. Two Local Alliances of the leather trade were there organized by Comrade Vander Porten, immediately thereafter an American Branch of Section Johnstown was organized.

All this serves to prove the wisdom of the party tactics in connecting itself close with the Alliance. The Socialist Labor party is the party of the proletariat, and leads the way in the class struggle. The pure and simple union is a denial of the class struggle. To allow "pure and simpledom" free play is to disconnect the party from the class struggle. Through the S. T. & L. A. the party is brought into direct touch with the living stream of the proletariat; in that way the proletarian movement becomes intelligent and thereby strong, and the party acquires a strength that it cannot otherwise acquire. To simply preach the class struggle is to remain in the clouds. We must be active in it. We cannot be so without the Alliance. The good effect of this policy has been turning up in many places. The feeling in Gloversville and Johnstown satisfies us here that we have at last struck the right and sound path.

ONE OF THEM.

HEADED OFF.

A Latest Utopian Scheme Runs up Against Sound Socialism.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 28.—It seems that Pittsburgh and vicinity have not yet been thoroughly purged of the numerous co-operative bric-a-brac schemes that at one time flourished in this territory, as an old nostrum in a new disguise has bobbed up recently. This "latest" is going to be a "co-operative city," and will contain telephone exchange, rapid transit, theatres, churches, schools and other conveniences too numerous to mention. It is perhaps needless to mention that the "city" is only on paper so far, and what the "promoters" most need at present is members who will take out shares at $10 per share. Therefore one of the young members of Branch 3 (American) of Section Pittsburgh was approached with a glowing circular offering him, among other inducements, a good position if he would become a member. Our Comrade returned the following pertinent answer:

"Mr. H. H. Whitney:

"Dear Sir—Your circular at hand; have given it careful study, and I beg leave to state that your scheme is not practical, and cannot be successful for several reasons:

"First—The sufferings of "down-trodden humanity" (which I infer means the working class) are due to the present capitalist system of the private ownership of the land and tools of production by the capitalist class, backed up by the power of the ballot. Any plan or "scheme" that would therefore serve the purpose to promote the welfare of the working class must of necessity antagonize the interests of the capitalist class, and would be crushed out of existence.

"Second—There is no hope for the working class to escape from its dependance on and slavery to the capitalist class other than by organizing into a class-conscious political party that has for its object the total overthrow of the capitalist system of production and the substitution in its place of the Socialist Commonwealth.

"Third—Your 'scheme' is not a new one by any means. Robert Owen spent a fortune generations ago trying to prove the practicability of co-operative towns, and failed because he did not understand the science of sociology and economic development.

"Fourth—Your scheme must fail because it does not aim to lift the entire working class, but only a small portion of them out of their present conditions. Now, my advice to you is to drop all 'plans' and 'schemes' and take up the study of scientific Socialism. You seem partially aware of the existence of social classes, which is a good sign. If you would study up the class struggle you would plainly see the futility of all these palliative schemes for benefiting "down-trodden humanity." You should read and study Marx's 'Capital,' and by all means subscribe for THE PEOPLE, the official organ of the S. L. P. I am a member of the Socialist Labor party, which teaches that the private ownership of the means of production and distribution is the real evil that is crushing the working class today, and that the remedy must come through the collective ownership of these social factors. In conclusion, I would invite you to attend the agitation meetings held every Sunday afternoon in the Labor Lyceum, corner 18th and Mary streets, south side, Pittsburgh, and at Wagner's Hall, 298 Beaver avenue, Allegheny City, every second and fourth Sunday of the month. Yours fraternally,

"H. J. SCHADE."

It will be seen from the above how a clear, scientific movement in any field has the effect of fortifying young Socialists against the fallacies of these utopian movements, that generally never get further than the circular stage of development. The promoter of this ideal co-operative scheme came to the Labor Lyceum meeting one Sunday afternoon, and it is safe to say that he there learned more about Socialism in an hour's time than he ever knew in all his life before. J. R. ROOT.

SHOEWORKERS.

A Debate Between the A. F. of L. and the S. T. & L. A. Organization Decided on.

The S. T. & L. A. shoemakers and officers of D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., were challenged to a debate with the President of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, John Tobin, by the New York local secretary. The debate was to be on the 25th of last month at Military Hall, and D. A. 49 was on deck ready to show that Mr. Tobin's union was worthless, and that he himself had declared the principle on which it was established as no good. At an early hour the hall was full to its utmost capacity, especially with shoemakers. It there appeared that Mr. Tobin had not been notified of the debate; he said he did not have his documents and figures with him. In view of this the debate was not pressed by D. A. 49 on that evening, but the D. A. asked that a date be fixed. Mr. Tobin said he doubted the benefit of a debate; nevertheless he would leave it to the house whether he should hold such a debate at some future time and at such place, etc., as might be agreed upon by both sides. A large number of ayes answered to this question; in the negative not one vote. In view of this, Mr. Tobin declared he would yield to the wishes of the house and hold the debate at some future day. After some smaller differences between the two shoemaker organizations were settled by ocular proof in favor of the S. T. & L. A. body, the large audience adjourned with a tremendous cheer for the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

Of course some fakirs managed to squeeze themselves into the meeting, and they withdrew disgusted, remarking that "the Socialists captured the meeting." Of course they did. The Socialist spirit is spreading everywhere among the workingmen. One day the capitalist class will look as rueful as the fakirs did that evening, and they will ruefully exclaim: "The Socialists have captured the country." That's what we are after.

Free Lectures will be given by the 14th Ward Branch of the Socialist Labor party on political, social and economic subjects, at Palace Hall, (second floor), 89 to 93 Grand street:

Wednesday, April 6th — "Trades Unions," B. Hughes.

Lectures commence at 8 p. m., and occupy about 45 minutes. The audience will be accorded the privilege of asking questions, which will be answered by the lecturer. The working class, in whose interest these lectures have been arranged, are especially invited to attend.

VOTE RIGHT

In the Municipal Campaigns, now Pending!

To Give up Voting is to Yield the Field to the Capitalist Spoliator—To Vote With Either of his two Old Political Parties is to Strengthen his Arm.

The following circular, sent out by a Socialist of New Jersey, is being circulated in the towns of that State that are now having a municipal campaign, and in which a Socialist ticket is in the field:

"My friends:—I notice a growing disposition on your part to keep away from the polls at our Charter Elections. Many seem to have lost all interest in local affairs, claiming that they are sick and tired of the whole business, that it makes no difference to them who is or who is not elected, 'they are all alike,' etc.

"If you mean the candidates of the dominant parties, you are undoubtedly right. The only difference between them is the label, but in reality they are 'two links of sausage from the same pup.'

"You claim that you have been deceived by the politicians, that they have violated their pledges, etc.! You are in error! The politicians have always faithfully kept their pledges, but they were pledged to their masters, the bosses, not to you! If you were deceived, you deceived yourselves. You voted for what you did not want and got it.

"LET US REASON TOGETHER!

"The bosses or leaders of the dominant parties are simply the managers of the political end of the corporate interests of the wealthy of the country. This wealth (originally wrung from labor) is invested in various enterprises all of which depend on legislation, National, State or Municipal, for success. Examine the roll of members or role of directors of any of these enterprises, and you will find the names of your political leaders, no matter to which of the dominant parties they may belong.

"IS IT REASONABLE to suppose that these people will make laws for your benfit and against their own interests?

Look at the Hazleton murder here! According to the sworn testimony of the sheriff h[illegible] duties were n[illegible] the mine bo[illegible] masters.

"MORE MURDERS!

"Look upon the number of people murdered annually by the railroad corporations for want of safety appliances! Why do your legislatures not act? Why? Simply because they represent the corporation, not your interests.

"THE MAJORITY OF VOTERS of this community are workingmen, yet ALL the legislation hitherto has been of, for and by the corporative interest. Why? Simply because you have been divided among yourselves.

"WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

"You, who are dissatisfied. Do you imagine you can mend matters by staying at home? No! It is your duty as a patriot, as a good citizen, to take an active part in the affairs of our city. It is your solemn duty to help rescue it from the hands of the marauders, who have for years subverted the public interests for their private ends.

"HOW CAN THIS BE ACCOMPLISHED?

"Workingmen in all parts of the civilized world are awakening to the knowledge that their interests, the interests of the great majority of the people, can only be served by political combination. Wherever this has been done, the condition of the working people has been and is improving to a marked degree.

"WORKINGMEN OF THIS CITY have also formed a branch of this party of the people, the only party in the world of and for the interests of labor.

"THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

"Do not imagine that by so doing you will be throwing a vote away! A vote cast for the right, a vote cast for a principle, is NEVER thrown away, while a vote cast for your natural enemies, the capitalist class, no matter under what name, Democrat or Republican, is not only thrown away, but helps to still further enslave yourselves and your children, and more firmly rivets the chains and fastens the yoke you now complain of.

"DO NOT FAIL TO VOTE!

"READ SOCIALIST LITERATURE!

"JOIN THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY!"

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 50 copies, $1,25; 100 copies, $2.50.

Comrade Martha Moore Avery's Homeward Tour.

Comrade Avery will speak at the following places on the dates given:

Cleveland, April 1 and 2; Pittsburg, Pa., April 4; Allegheny, April 5; West Newton, April 6; Braddock, April 7; Wilmerding, April 8; Jeannette, April 9; Pittsburg, April 10; Altoona, April 11; Shamokin, April 12; Scranton, April 13; Bethlehem, April 14; Allentown, April 15; Reading, April 16; Chester, April 17; Philadelphia, April 18.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE PEOPLE.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	36,564
In 1897	**55,673**

Thus, step by step, painfully, by dint of struggles, of courage, of perseverance, our children alternately vanquishing and vanquished, occasionally stopping, after battle, to bind their wounds and recover breath, but never retreating an inch—, will arrive, across the centuries, at the goal of their laborious and bloody voyage; then there will rise in all its splendor the radiant day of the enfranchisement of Gaul, of the emancipation of the people.

Legend of the French serfs in 1114, from "The Mysteries of the People."

Eugene Sue.

With the reduction of the price of THE PEOPLE, a new system becomes compulsory upon the business administration of the paper.

Subscribers in arrears are forthwith dropped.

This system commences with this issue.

Watch the date on your label; on that day your subscription expires.

VOL. VIII. No. 1.

With this issue, THE PEOPLE enters upon its eighth birthday. Its life has been one of struggle from the moment of its birth, a struggle, at first complicated with the struggle for existence, but, its existence once established, a struggle against the foe that will continue in increased fierceness until its mission is fulfilled.

Looking backward upon the years behind it, THE PEOPLE sees with satisfaction that its course has brought over into the camp of militant Socialism large numbers once held aloof by misconceptions, and clarified only by its uncompromising warfare, while, on the other hand, the increase in the number of the foes of Socialism, now seen in the open, only represents so many foes, once masked and in hiding, whom the grape shot and cannister of the advancing Socialist column has driven from cover.

In the contest implied by such results the warfare of spitballs has no place. Not only must the light of Socialism be spread in all its purity, but the jungle of errors that intercept that light must be slashed down ruthlessly, and their upholders dealt with accordingly. It is a principle of civilized warfare that those who hold an indefensible position retard peace, and, therefore, deserve no quarter. THE PEOPLE follows this principle.

In the ears of THE PEOPLE rings the cry of an outraged working class—children, women and men—held in the bonds of wage slavery and scourged by all the miseries and woes of the capitalist system; while even above that cry rise the peals of laughter from the bacchanalian orgies of the capitalist class. Its heart fired by the sentiment of humanity, and its head cool in the conviction that exact knowledge and science impart, THE PEOPLE'S blows for freedom will rain in the future as they have done in the past with the same, or even increasing, vigor upon the devoted head of the capitalist exploiter and his multifarious pickets and out-posts.

Confident of success in its work, and of increasing support, THE PEOPLE calls out in this No. 1 of its Vol. VIII. to the stalwart Socialists in the land:

Comrades, draw close, and onward!

GOOD NEWS!

A dispatch is published from Fishkill Landing in the metropolitan press that

"The Misses Louisa and Mariana Collins have just completed their forty-seventh year in the employ of a factory here. In that time they have lost but five or six days. They are still working every day."

Can there be any better evidence of prosperity than that furnished by such news?

Here we have two women working in a factory now after having worked there forty-seven years; they are still able to work; the machinery has never mutilated either of them; nor has the unsanitary condition of the place yet killed them off!

Socialists and other pestiferous people, with hearts hard as stones, and minds of a wholly un-American turn, will find fault. Well, we know that such people will claim that the two women rather furnish evidence of a thoroughly unwholesome state of things. That their continuing at work after forty-seven years of work is proof that they have been robbed wholesale of the fruit of their labor, to such an extent as to compel them to work even now when they should be enjoying the repose that their advanced years entitle them to. That their being still in single blessedness brings out and rubs under the nose of a pharisaic capitalist society its home-squelching characteristic, etc., etc. . .

These and many more such inferences would the wicked Socialists draw from the choice news item above quoted. But the "practical," "level-headed," "law-abiding" reader will bow meekly, and looking up wonderingly at the capitalist Juggernaut, admire it all the more for producing such a fruit as two women, slaving it still after forty-seven years of almost continuous toil!

Between these two classes of people—those who hold with the Socialists and those who hold against the Socialist on the case of these two women—the country will ere long be divided, and the issue will be settled.

But what about the capitalists themselves? Will they form a third group? No! They will be holding and pulling the strings tied to the legs of the meek and admiring.

Senator Thurston weeps in the Senate over the woes of the Cubans. The knowing; those who are aware of the fact that just such woes afflict working people in America and are derived profit from by Senator Thurston explain the Senator's tears with the argument that he weeps not over woes but over the fact that others than his clients profit by them. Correct.

A despatch to this office from Lynn, Mass., gives the news that Comrade Carter was re-elected secretary of the Lasters' Union by a bigger majority, and a Socialist was elected President. At the last election the bosses felt sore, but predicted a Socialist defeat this year. The Lynn shoeworkers' organizations are ripening fast out of the pure and simple into the S. T. & L. A. body.

At the election held on Feb. 15 in Blandburg, Pa., Comrade Joshia Fusslemann was elected Inspector of Election. Information of this was accidentally delayed.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The "Army and Navy Journal," the organ of the upper military and naval officers of the land, is boiling over with the war fever. That this should be thus is quite natural. Our Generals, Admirals, Colonels and Whatnots want to have an occasion to show that they are not a superfluous lot of salary-swallowers. Just the same as the Highland highwayman, who stole cattle so as to be employed by the owners of the stolen cattle to find them back again and get paid for so doing, our Generals, Admirals, Colonels and sundry Assistant Bottle-washers would conjure up war, and then get paid for fighting it down; besides, in times of war there are chances for promotion, i. e., higher salaries, that the piping times of peace don't offer. Their conduct, as far as that goes, is natural; and natural also is the conduct of their organ.

What, however, is quite unnatural, and even dangerous to these gentlemen and their organ is the language the "Army and Navy Journal" is driven into by its desire to promote the interests of its patrons. In considering and refuting the arguments against war with Spain, it says:

"Whatever we ask should be asked in a way that will command attention, and not in the timid tones of the suppliant. And above all we should leave wholly outside of the discussion the interests of the money changers and the bond sellers. It is with the great American people that we have to deal, and not with Wall street."

Here, certainly, is a case of the axe rising against its master. To run down "Wall street," and speak with disregard of the "money changers and bond sellers" by an organ of the Army and Navy is peculiar folly. What are the Army and Navy there for if not to protect the capitalist class, whose upper crust are "Wall street" and the "money changers and bond sellers"? The "Army and Navy Journal" surely knows that. How then can it spurn them? Or are it and its military patrons of the opinion that they can now rely upon the "common people," and when the war is over make again their peace with "Wall street," etc.?

A dangerous proceeding.

In these days, when everything is arraigned, and justly so, before the bar of reason and compelled to show cause why it should be, the questions of Order, Discipline, Democracy, Freedom—and scores of others are all up under consideration. In the turmoil that these questions raise and by which, as a significant feature of the simultaneous break-up and reconstructiveness of our generation, all political parties in the land, without exception, are affected, it is timely to quote the following words of wisdom, born of ample experience, uttered by the organ of the German Socialist Labor party, "Der Sozialdemokrat," of August 23, 1890, at a time when "Die Jungen" (The Young Ones) were trying to introduce Anarchy into the German Social Democracy under the guise of "freedom" and "democracy," were upholding the principle of "opposition," etc., and were indignant at what they called "personal attacks." Said "Der Sozialdemokrat":

"We premise our words with the self-evident statement that we see nothing, either unusual or suspicious, in the fact that certain people turn up in opposition. Opposition there has always been, and always will be. Otherwise our party were not a living organism. We ourselves have often made opposition. Nor, probably, is there a single comrade, the party members of the Reichstag delegation included, who could not say the same of himself, and who might not at any time again find himself in the condition to make opposition, even to be compelled to do so. Opposition to things that one holds to be false, is not a right only, is a DUTY of every member of a community.

"The question before us is not that opposition is made; but HOW and BY WHOM it is made.... The theoretical, etc., opinions advanced by the oppositionists, take second rank."

After disposing by "personal attacks" of the persons who made the opposition and the manner in which they conducted it, "Der Sozialdemokrat" proceeds:

"It won't do to say off-hand: 'The Social Democracy is a DEMOCRACY, and being such,' and so on. The Social Democracy is, first of all, a fighting party, that, true enough, organizes itself as much as possible, in a democratic manner, but to which, just because it is a FIGHTING PARTY, all the principles applicable to existing society, can by no means be applied without check. Moreover, even democratic communities, just as soon as they find themselves in a state of war, modify their regulations accordingly. The Social Democracy is in a perpetual state of war."

The "Jungen"—made up partly of light-headed people, partly of schemers, partly of well-meaning but weak-kneed and misguided people, and partly of Anarchists and other vicious elements—were not allowed to scuttle the party of our Cause in Germany to the tune of "democracy," "freedom," "no personalities," or any of the numerous other false cries that they set up and are set up on all such occasions everywhere else. They were fired out and kept out; at the Zurich International Socialist Convention, they were physically put out.

The passages herein quoted are recommended to the serious consideration of the serious; whether now already active in the revolutionary movement in this country, or moving towards the revolutionary stream.

This item from the Philadelphia "Record," gives food for thought:

"A four-inch circular saw for the amputation of limbs is being installed at the Emergency Hospital at Boston. An electric motor will furnish the power to run the device. The saw will be mounted on a flexible shaft like that which a dentist uses, only larger. The bearings, in which runs the saw arbor, are attached to a handle by which the surgeon is able to direct the saw at any angle. Dr. Galvin and his assistants will be able to save considerable time by the use of this appliance. Not only does the saw cut much faster than a hand tool, but the heat of its rapid cutting sears the flesh and blood vessels, and the healing processes of nature are advanced to a stage which by the old method is reached only after an hour or two."

Quite recently we quoted from another capitalist paper to show that the amount of capital now necessary for the proper machinery to run a law office with, had become so large that even in that profession the small man is and must be driven to wall. Now, here again we have a capitalist paper furnishing facts that illustrate the power of machinery, thereby foreshadowing the fate of the poorer in another profession.

The New York primary bill having become law, one would imagine that the papers that favored it would be jubilant. What, then, means this misgivings-full squib from one of those papers, the New York "Evening Post":

"The passage of the new primary bill by a virtually unanimous vote in both houses of the Legislature is a proceeding which is calculated to make reformers rub their eyes and ask what it means. Why should the politicians of both machines favor a measure which was designed to diminish if not destroy their power? We give it up. Probably they feel confident of their ability to 'beat' it in operation, and thus be in a position to get all the 'kickers' back into the party fold, under conditions which will make it difficult for them to complain of unfair treatment. Of one thing we may feel assured, and that is that the new system will give us a final test of the primary system. If, under this law, voters will not take part in the primaries, then it will be useless to advocate the continuance of this method of nomination in any form. If this plan fails, we must look to other methods for getting candidates into the field."

Can it be that, finally, the light of one of the arguments made against the bill on behalf of the Socialist Labor party has finally percolated through the thick wool of that rifle-diet-to-the-workers' "reform paper?" At last, probably, it has discovered that its silly bill, silly in so far as it was aimed against Tom Platt's heelers, will in no way protect its fastidious and silk-stockinged clientèle, but will, on the contrary, legalize the wrongs that they have complained of as being practised upon them.

A few weeks ago, we quoted from the Girard, Kans., "Appeal to Reason" and showed that the quoted passages on the "middleman" and "middle class" were an economic "pi," which would throw any reader in confusion. In answer to that the "Appeal to Reason" says:

"The New York PEOPLE should not pick out a paragraph from these columns written by a contributor and answer it as though it were an editorial expression. Leave such things for the press of the exploiters in its efforts to deceive the people as to what Socialism is."

Such treatment is our excuse for once more convicting the "Appeal to Reason" of unfairness, to wit:

The article in the "Appeal to Reason" from which our quotation of economic absurdities was taken, starts with this language:

"In a letter to THIS OFFICE for information the writer, a farmer, objects to the Socialist Labor party, and all other labor parties, on the ground that, as a farmer, he is not in that class. And he wants to know where, in the economic movement, the farmer is to come in, and with what forces to align himself."

This demonstrates that the inquiring farmer wrote to "THIS OFFICE" (the office of the "Appeal to Reason), and the answer made to him proceeded also from "THIS OFFICE," to wit, the office of the "Appeal to Reason,"—consequently the article from which the paragraphs that we criticised were picked was as official a statement as any editorial.

Or are we, perhaps, to be met with a third bit of unfairness, and, instead of a frank and manly almission of error, be again insinuated against and misrepresented; and to see the insinuation backed by another dodge, some such dodge as this for instance:

"THIS OFFICE has a suite of rooms where contributors meet and write uneditorial answers to letters sent to THIS OFFICE, for which answers, issued from THIS OFFICE, THIS OFFICE is not responsible"??

Again we repeat it: the adversaries of the tactics of the Socialist Labor party, are the unfairest foes we know of. Such a thing as to stand up straight seems unknown to them.

And this time we add:

"Notice also the unconscientiousness of such 'eye-opening' papers. The "Appeal to Reason" does not correct the serious blunder in economics that it was criticised for setting afloat, even after its attention is called to it. It set the misleading statements afloat, and it lacks the moral energy to repeat the passages and retract them. It prefers to let the errors stick, rather than even alluding to them in the remotest way, and thus, at least, give some tip to those of its readers who may have read the errors that issued from ITS OFFICE, and may be now floundering over them."

The New York "Voice," organ of the Prohibition variety of note-shavers, land-sharks and labor fleecers, has had a very scurvy trick played upon it. In its issue of the 17th of last month it produces a cartoon in which a rum-seller, standing before his saloon, is accosted by a stranger, who, pointing at a troop of workingmen marching with their tin cans to the factory, asks where all those men were going to; and the saloon-keeper answers:

"A few of them are going to work for their wives and children; many of them are going to work FOR ME."

Such is the picture as it looks at a careless glance; more carefully examined one sees that the lines back of and above the saloon-keeper, that at first glance seem only to be shadow, represent the exact outlines of Mr. Wardwell, the chieftain of the Prohibition party, who is at the same time treasurer of the Standard Oil Trust to the tune of $50,000 a year; the lines above Wardwell are easily deciphered and make out this inscription:

"A type of the capitalist class."

And the lines to the right and left of Wardwell reveal to the careful observer quite clearly the following inscriptions:

"Ha! Ha! What fools these mortals be! Listen to that rum-seller! He imagines that many of those workingmen work FOR HIM and that he himself works FOR HIMSELF! Ha! Ha! ALL those workingmen, and HE INCLUDED work FOR US—for the capitalist class! Ha! Ha!"

If ever a practical joke was played against a paper it was played by the artist who sold that cartoon to the "Voice" and thus made itself publish a truth of such deep significance.

The New Bedford, Mass., "Standard" announces that Mr. Samuel Ross—the labor fakir who is secretary of the New Bedford Spinners' Union and at the same time a Republican member of the House of Representatives—wishes to have it known that

"Representative Samuel Ross has not left the Republican party. He was somewhat criticised for addressing the newly-organized branch of the Social Democracy, which he had joined, but he says the Social Democracy is not a political organization."

After the noise made by the so-called Social Democrats about their acquisition of Mr. Ross, as an evidence that their political party was destined to smash up the S. L. P. all into a heap, this announcement will surely raise the spirits of the S. L. P., that had been drooping since the "acquisition."

The London "Justice" deals out through Comrade H. M. Hyndman this just slap in the face to its home Jingos which fits both cheeks of our own American Jingos just now:

"We are this year spending the huge sum of £45,000,000 on armaments, and are lending, conjointly with Germany, £16,000,000 to the China we are allowing to be dismembered before our eyes. Home affairs are neglected, the children of the people rot on in the slums, our agriculture is retrograding, our trade is falling off. When we ask why no attention is paid to these desperately important matters we are told that foreign politics dominate everything, that the Empire must be defended at all costs.... But a policy of cringing to the strong and bullying the weak, a policy of bold talk and cowardly deed, a policy of contemptible meanness and cruelty to poor India, and of wholesale bribes to rich Englishmen; this entire policy of bluster and bolt, of grab and swindle, tells of the final decay of capitalist aristocracy, and may well betoken the early downfall of our nation."

We yield to the request of the Vineland, N. J., "Independent" to reproduce the below:

"All reform papers throughout this Nation should give some space to the fact that in New Jersey, this little bit of sandy sandwich in between two great capitalistic centers, John H. Weaver has been jailed for debt. A meagre has been jailed for debt. A meagre poll tax at that, for which there is no warrant in justice or equity."

If that were the only capitalist outrage chargeable to New Jersey, then, indeed, would that State seem outside of the Nation. But it isn't. In New Jersey, like all over the rest of the country, not one man, but the whole working class is a prisoner; not for debt, but for the work done—prisoners of poverty.

The Memphis, Tenn., "United Labor Journal" makes a special item of the following statement as the very first one in a recent issue:

"The working classes are the producers, and the loafing classes are the consumers."

This means that the loafing classes are consumers only,—which is correct; and, inferentially, that the working classes only produce but do not consume,—which is nonsense.

This nonsense is the result of seeking to divide society into consumers and producers,—a wholly unscientific division. And the nonsense is born of small bourgeois tactics that look to "cheapness." Just as soon as "cheapness" becomes an issue, man has to be addressed as consumer; but since the producers are consumers also one immediately lands in the contradiction of wanting cheapness, as consumer, and thereby, as producer, to get less than he would like.

This talk of "consumers" bobs up frequently, but always among confused people.

MY CANVASS.

[By EDNA BREARS, in London "Justice."]

If e'er you go a-canvassing, I most sincerely hope
That you've got, or had, a mother known to everyone!
It's the only sure and certain card, the one that wins the trick,
Your programme may be good, or bad—the thing is done!

I canvassed round, the other day, and thought the fight to win
By the splendid bill of fare I had to offer them.
"Eight Hours—State Aid—and Pensions—Better Housing for the Poor."
But it wasn't often any use to proffer them!

"Our candidate's a splendid man! He's earnest, straight and true!
He's sure to do his best for you. DO vote for him."
But the old man shook his head, and said, "I would, lass, but ye see,
I've got to vote for t' other fellow—Smifakim!

"Him? Ay, I knowed his MOTHER well; why, she and me was pals!
I used to turn the mangle for her, washing days;
And though he HAS forgot us since he got up in the world—
(I sometimes think he hasn't got his mother's ways).

"Ye see, I couldn't vote for Brown, and leave HIM in the lurch;
His mother—she'd ha' liked him to get in, I guess;
And may be he'll shake hands wi' me the day I go to vote—
For's mother's sake he surely couldn't do no less!"

The next house held a tidy pair; I knew them very well—
But, better still, they knew my mother, too!
"Vote for Brown?" they cried at once, "O' course, o' course, my dear,
Eh, lass! we knowed thi mother years and years agoo!!"

I tried to make them understand, if they elected Brown,
He'd work his hardest, better times to win for them,
But they scarcely seemed to hear, and the husband turned and said,
"She's growed exactly like her mother, ain't she, Em?"

My canvassing is over, and I hope the right man's in.
He may help to get them ease, and fair environment;
But—to think they have no faith, no HOPE, no interest in the plans
Of the member that they choose themselves to represent!

They seem to think the candidate just tries the place to get
As a sort of polish, hall-mark, call it what you will;
And they never think they're sending MEN to fight the people's fight,
Or wolves, or curs, or sheep (all's one) their private hoard to fill.

No reason for this laziness! Work harder, harder still;
Till the people choose a MOUTHPIECE bold to trumpet forth their wrong.
Then our sacred Cause shall triumph! Then the right shall win the day!
God grant the hope will help to make and keep our spirits strong.

The 50 Cents People.

We start it with 800 new, paid in advance, individual subscribers, besides a heavy increase of the Section orders.

KEEP ON WITH THE GOOD WORK, COMRADES! HUSTLE!

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I hear Socialists often talk about the capitalists' trying to disfranchise the workingmen. Now, I see no evidence of that. Guess those Socialists are talking through their hats.

Uncle Sam—Not they, good man; but you.

B. J.—What evidence have you got?

U. S.—To begin with South Carolina; do you know what happened there a few years ago?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—Well, the constitution was so amended that a property qualification, or, in its stead, a literary qualification is needed to vote.

B. J.—Do you Socialists want stupidity to vote?

U. S.—No, indeed; but the capitalists do!

B. J.—Not much they don't. Don't you say yourself that the South Carolina law requires a literary qualification?

U. S.—And I added, a "property qualification" if the literary qualification failed. This means that a man without literary qualification may vote provided he has property; in other words, this means that ignorance may vote if backed by property. Now, let me tell you a story about our great Benjamin Franklin. The discussion being up on the suffrage, and several people demanding a property qualification, Franklin said:

"A man comes and offers to vote. He is asked: 'Have you any property worth five pounds sterling?' 'Yes,' says he, 'I have a donkey; he is worth that.' 'Very well,' he is then told, 'you can vote'; and he does.

"Next year he comes again and offers to vote. Again he is asked whether he has any property, and he answers: 'No, my donkey has died.' Thereupon he is told 'You can't vote.'

"Now, gentlemen, who voted last year—the MAN or the DONKEY?"

What say you to this?

B. J.—Franklin caught them fast.

U. S.—Which goes to show that, to say a man may vote even if he is illiterate, provided he has property, is to say that ignorance may vote; and that is the position of the capitalists, not of the Socialists.

B. J.—But——

U. S.—I am not yet through with that point. We say that to demand a property qualification for the voter is to-day intended to disqualify the worker. It is a wrong because under the present social system, the property of the people is being confiscated in ever larger quantities, and the masses are being stripped more and more of all their property. The system that first pauperizes the workingman, may not justly punish him by disfranchisement on the ground of his being poor. A property qualification for the suffrage may be just only in a social system that guarantees equality of opportunities to work to all, and that guarantees the ownership of the property thus produced. But the capitalist system deprives the working class of the opportunity to produce property; and then the same system robs the workingman of what he produced. Such a social system is the last that should consider it punishable with disfranchisement not to have property.

B. J.—Well, I'll grant you that. But education at least should be a condition.

U. S.—Possibly so, but then only under the social system that makes education possible, if not easy. But here again, the capitalist system breeds ignorance by breeding poverty, and then seeks to derive safety from its own wrongdoing by disfranchising the workers whom it has compelled to work from such early age and so long that they have had no chance to educate themselves. Look at it as you like the property and the educational qualifications are to-day a wrong, and this wrong is done by the capitalist class to disfranchise the workers.

B. J.—Well, granted that; the attempt to disfranchise is only made in South Carolina——

U. S.—It is?

B. J.—That's all you mentioned.

U. S.—I mentioned South Carolina to start with.

B. J.—Are there more States?

U. S.—Yes, indeed. Similar laws have been passed in Mississippi; a similar law was just adopted by the Constitutional Convention of Louisiana on the 26th of last month;——

B. J.—But those are all Southern States, and those laws aim at the negro only.

U. S.—Even if they did it would be wrong, but they aim at all the workers; white industrial labor is increasing in the South, and that labor the capitalists seek to disfranchise. But leave aside the South, how about the North?

B. J.—Here too?

U. S.—The new primary laws of California and New York are but round about ways to disfranchise the workers, and likewise is the ballot law just passed in Ohio. What is the difference between barring the workingman from the polls altogether, and depriving him from the opportunity to set up his own ticket? In the former case he can't vote at all; and in the latter case, if he wants to vote, he must vote for the parties he objects to, there being none other in the field possible. This is what the Northern laws are trying to bring about.

The Socialists don't talk through their hats when they sound the alarm that the capitalists seek to disfranchise the workers. Those talk through their hats who, like you, are asleep on what is going on.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

DEBSISM REPUDIATED.

Aggressive Action by the Comrades of Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 22—Well, Debs has been here, and we gave him a warm welcome. We passed out the enclosed manifestoes at the door to all who entered the building until our supply was exhausted, and an examination of the hall, after the crowd departed, showed that very few copies had been left in the chairs or upon the floor. That is a pretty good head, anyway.

This is the manifesto:

SOCIALISTS REPUDIATE DEBS.

The Socialist Labor Party Denies that Debs is Speaking under its Auspices, and Declares that He Neither Understands nor is Able to Promulgate the Principles of Socialism.—Colonization Schemes Sure to Fail.—The "Fallacies of Debsism" to Be Discussed Next Sunday Evening at Workingmen's Library, 609 C Street, N. W.

To the Working Class:

Section Washington of the Socialist Labor Party desires to call your attention to the following item, which appeared in this morning's Washington Post:

NO CONNECTION WITH DEBS.

Socialist Labor Party Adopts Resolutions Concerning His Visit Here.

Section Washington of the Socialist Labor Party met last night at the Workingmen's Library, and were addressed by Arthur Keep, who spoke on "Money and Its Relation to the People." A general discussion followed. The statement having been made that E. V. Debs was to speak under the auspices of the party, the following resolution was offered and adopted:

"Whereas the principles and tactics of the Social Democracy, of which E. V. Debs is the chief, are wholly at variance with the principles and tactics of Socialism; therefore Section Washington, of the Socialist Labor Party, wishes it understood that the statement to the effect that E. V. Debs is to speak under its auspices is incorrect; that Mr. Debs has no connection with the Socialist Labor Party, and does not understand, and therefore cannot promulgate Socialism."

Having thus made public the fact that we have nothing to do with Debs and his Social Democracy, and that we, in common with the Socialist Labor Party of the United States and the world, condemn the Social Democracy and pity the utopianists who are attaching themselves to it, we herewith present our reasons for this action, and earnestly request that you read the following clear and precise statement of the principles of Socialism and the attitude of Socialists toward the movements that call themselves "Socialist Movements," and yet are wholly at variance with the principles of Socialism:

Socialism is not a plan that is to be set in operation apart from or outside of the existing organization of society. Socialism is that growth, that legal development out of present conditions which must result when, through their experience and sufferings, the workers realize the cause of their subjection as a class to that class which possess the instruments of production; when they learn to know and feel their distinct class interests; when they awaken to a sense of their overwhelming power; when they assert that power in their own interests, achieve their emancipation, and thereby end the dominance of class.

Imperfect comprehension of this fundamental distinction explains the frequency with which well-meaning persons, aroused by their sympathies to zeal for your betterment (Mr. Debs and his Social Democracy, for example), propose elaborate schemes, "duodecimo editions of the New Jerusalem," which they seek to have realized experimentally as object lessons for your instruction. But progress moves, of necessity, within the limits of existing conditions. These plans, by the very attempt to escape conditions, deprive themselves of the vital forces which are shaping the development of society. Their failure is therefore inevitable.

But the capitalist press eagerly exploits these futile schemes, foreordained to failure. It points to them as EXAMPLES OF SOCIALISM PUT IN PRACTICE. It widely heralds their breakdown; brands their failures as the failure of Socialism, and holds them up for the discouragement of your just aspiration.

Blind to the limitations of such efforts, untaught by the experience and failures of the past, Mr. Debs and his Social Democracy are to-day offering you, "in the name of Socialism," another of those schemes into which society is to be made to fit.

For this reason it becomes necessary for the Socialist Labor party to emphatically repudiate all such plans, its duty to warn you earnestly of their futility, lest, in your extremity, you should grasp at this wisp of straw.

Mr. Debs and his associates have dragged you through the wilderness of Populism into the slough of silver, and now, by a mirage of false hopes, they would lead you into a thorny desert of utopianism.

They are seriously proposing to you a scheme of migration for the conquest of the political machinery of one of the smaller States, whereupon a full-fledged co-operative commonwealth is to be established therein.

Be not deluded with the vain hope that the capture of some out-of-the-way corner of capitalist government will provide an adequate haven of refuge. Capitalism and a thorough co-operative commonwealth could not exist side by side under one government. They are irreconcilable and mutually destructive. The necessities of capitalism would compel it to use the higher power of the national Government, which it would still control, for the repression of your efforts within the limits of mere makeshift palliatives. See how to-day it even stoops to crush out the vestiges of the old communal life among the Indian tribes.

With its development hemmed in by the judicial and military powers of government—the political arm of capitalism—the new commonwealth must at the same time encounter the whole economic power of capitalism, cannot escape that fierce conflict in which to-day whole nations are bankrupted.

What chance would it have in such a struggle! On one side, capital thoroughly equipped with all the forces of modern production. On the other, a little community without capital, absolutely without equipment for the struggle. Who can doubt the outcome? Yet those who propose to you such grotesque and tragic folly would have you believe that they alone are practical—all others theoretical dreamers.

They would ask us to abdicate our right to the wealth we have already created, to abandon to the capitalist that perfected equipment for production which is ours by right. They would counsel us to seek success in flight, and set up our commonwealth in a corner. No wonder the capitalist looks on and laughs.

The Socialist Labor party warns you against the commission of such a folly. Keep clear of this movement, which appeals to your discontent rather than your intelligence, and can end only in disaster and discouragement. At this stage of the conflict we can afford to make no false moves.

There can be no solution which is not commensurate with the conditions. To be a success, the co-operative commonwealth must be practically self-contained, self-sufficing; and that it cannot be on less than a national scale. Such is the inter-dependence, so interwoven are all parts of the modern industrial system, so closely does the world-wide process of exchange touch every moment of our lives, that IT IS MORE PRACTICAL TO REVOLUTIONIZE THE WHOLE THAN A PART.

Out of these conditions the true co-operative commonwealth must grow. It will not abandon them. It will utilize that basis of co-operative production which is developing within capitalism itself, while at the same time changing its character through co-operative ownership of the instruments of production.

The realization of that co-operative ownership must be the goal of our efforts. The road to it is straight. There are no short cuts. Years ago Marx and Engels raised the banner of International Socialism and blazed the way, proclaiming that "the FIRST STEP in the revolution by the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of ruling class. * * * The proletariat will use its political supremacy to wrest * " * all capital from the bourgeoisie, to centralize all instruments of production in the hands of the State, i. e., of the proletariat organized as the ruling class."

The working class is already an overwhelming majority, and needs but the confidence to assert itself. It is the only class which is growing in strength, recruited by the disintegration of the middle class through the concentrative forces of capitalism.

Unite, then, with the Socialist Labor party, which stands boldly for your class interests at the polls. Use your ballots as weapons for the conquest of your liberties, for the assertion of that supremacy which shall be yours.

Why, when you resort to such economic schemes you are little better than an unarmed mob. You are attacking capitalism on its own ground, in its strongest citadel. Capitalists can afford to be amused.

But when, conscious of your power, you vote the Socialist ballot, you attack it at the most vulnerable point. In the political field you meet it as an equal; yes, as its master. Here is the natural training-ground for the class-conscious organization of your forces. The growth of the Socialist vote is the measure of your progress, every increase a step towards the realization of your purpose.

The Socialist Labor party does not seek your support through fake promises or by raising vain hopes. Your emancipation must be the work of your own hands. Seek not after leaders. Let the necessities of your class be your guide, the advancement of your class your one endeavor.

Join with us in the effort to wrest from the capitalist class that possession of the instruments of production which is the secret of our enslavement as a class. Back of us is the proletariat of the world, organizing in the struggle against international capitalism. Their progress is our progress. In their victories we shall conquer. Socialism is the one intelligent power whose growth is the terror of capitalism. LET ITS FEARS TEACH YOU WHERE TO STRIKE.

On to the polls for your emancipation!

Strike with the ballot for control of the means of life!

Vote for the Socialist Revolution!

SECTION WASHINGTON,
SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.
Washington, D. C., March 21.

Socialist Tracts.

Price of the following Tracts and Party Platforms $1.50 per thousand:

1.—"What shall we do to be saved?" A Sermon to Workingmen, by Henry Kuhn.
2.—"Socialism," by William Watkins.
3.—"Why American workingmen should be Socialists," by H. G. Wilshire.
4.—"Social Effects of Machinery," by Frank W. Cotton.
5.—"Socialism." Extracts culled from Robert Blatchford's "Merrie England."
6.—"A Plain Statement of Facts," by Hugo Vogt.
7.—"Middle Class Municipalisation and the Municipal Programme of the Socialist Labor Party."
8.—"An Appeal of the Irish Socialist Republican Party to the Working Class Irish of America."
9.—"An Appeal to the Workers to Enroll Themselves in the Ranks of the Socialist Labor Party."
10.—"The Platform of the Socialist Labor Party" (with comments in the following languages, four pages: English, German, French, Italian, Slavish and Jewish.
11.—"Attitude of the Socialist Labor Party Towards Trade Unions."

"The Firebrand." A humorous comedy in one act. (Adapted from the German.) Price 1 cent per copy; 1,000 copies $5.00.

"Reform or Revolution," by Daniel De Leon. 5 cents a copy.

Send your order to

New York Labor News Co.,
64 East 4th street, New York, N. Y.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Comrade Peter Steenmans, Jr., 52 Guilford street, has been elected agent for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers in arrears are requested to kindly remit when called upon by the new agent.

SNAP SHOTS.

That Hit Whomsoever the Cap Fits, Whether they Cry "Hit or Not."

[By PETER E. BURROWES.]

A CHAT WITH THE DEVIL.

I met the Devil first in a church. When I discovered who he was, I says: "Pray, what are you doing here?"

"I can't pray," he replied, "but I will tell you what I am doing here. I am waiting for my share of the collection."

"And what right have you to a share of the collection?" I asked.

"I have a mortgage on the church," he replied. "Besides which I constitute a very important part of its theology. First me, and then salvation from me; and there you have it. But don't be too hard on me when you introduce me to those Socialists."

If he ever blushes he is blushing now at the fortuitous concourse of absurdities that brings him before Socialist readers.

* * *

THE UNTAGGED MAN.

They tell us that this is absolutely an individualistic age; yet every effort of social pressure is exercised to drive the poor individual into one of the minor groups preparatory to imbedding him in the cement of his proper class. An unsettled man is a mark for all society. A fellow from Bennington, Vt., arrived the other day at Nebraska in a boat of his own making with one dollar in his pocket. He reached there by unnavigable rivers a distance of 2,300 miles. After such fearful privations of hunger, cold and peril as could never have fallen to the lot of any native Indian of former America who desired to reach some other part of his continent before civilization came. The Indian might have had individual Indians—his own equals—to arrest his course, but the modern American, unsettled, has all organized society against him; refusing to save him, yet driving him or threatening him out of human sight, beyond the reach of help or comfort. History has no brother in isolated misery for the common tramp of American highways.

* * *

THE DEVIL AND THE NEWSPAPERS.

Generally speaking, the Devil likes newspapers; they never go back on him; they are faithful and true to the Father of Lies. If the Devil has any preference for one newspaper above another I think it would be in favor of a Sunday edition of some Republican sheet; I could not tell you which one. None but the personage named is equal to the task of discriminating between the various shades of cant and hypocrisy which go to make up these five cents' worths. None but he possesses the length of days and the power of infinite self subdivision required for the task; only a devil could read them all, and he who would read them all might easily become a devil.

I have also reason to believe that he takes great delight in the Democratic newspapers—they are so like the others.

His method of reading the newspapers is quite different from yours and mine. He always begins with the advertisements, and there he lingers long and fondly. As a dog derives entertainment and matter for investigation in every post, so the devil finds much to amuse him in the advertisements.

I trust that nobody here will press me as to where I got my information from. Be content with what you receive and do not force a man to give his friends away.

There is nothing in this world the Devil hates so much and so wickedly as time. Therefore he (eternal wretch that he is) is in sympathy with every enterprise that steals, wastes or spoils it. He loves capitalism for that reason because it steals time away from the human race; and he loves these Demo-Rep. newspapers because they fool and fritter away the time of their readers, and because they are so curiously organized as to be generally on the wrong side—that is his own side—of every question.

* * *

DRUNKENNESS.

The man who fell by the wayside and was robbed as he was going to Jericho was brought by the good Samaritan into a saloon. While he was lying there one of the robbers who had cleaned him out came in for a drink. "That poor fellow you see lying yonder," says the landlord, "was carried in here the other day bleeding and penniless by a good Samaritan."

"Ah!" replies the robber, shaking his head, "these good Samaritans are very injudicious and indiscriminating; this man was not a deserving case, Mr. Landlord. Take my word for it, he drinks. Penniless, did you say? What else could do it but drink!"

Without your drinking, capitalism would not have a skreed of an apology for its crimes; without other folks' drunkenness, the majority of moralists would have nothing to compare themselves with, and would therefore never have discovered their own virtue.

* * *

DOLLARDUM AND DOLLARDEE.

One day she walked out of her elegant hum,
A diamond-decked damsel was she;
When who should she meet but my Lord Dollardum,
And her own name was Miss Dollardee.

"Oh, Dolly, sweet Doll," and he touched his broad hat,
"A something I wish to unfold;
"Though I'm a d'public—an—you're a d'crat,
I think we're both solid on gold."

"Both solid, my charmer, my own Dollardum;
The regular de-mock-er-a-cy;
Accepts your bank balance in marriage; oh come
To the arms of your own Dollardee."

Still every four years they make politics hum
When they seek their constituency.
If one wins your votes, then you have Dollardum;
If t'other, you have Dollardee.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Features of the Situation in Stoneham, Mass.

To THE PEOPLE:—Political affairs are changing in the 7th Congressional District with such rapidity that the S. L. P. has a better chance here to spread its truth and soon win victory than in any other district in Massachusetts. Within ten years the principal industries have undergone a complete revolution, and the victims to-day seem dulled and stupified by the "advance" they have made. It remains for us to rouse them, to drill them, and to teach them their own value and power. The rubber-workers, shoemakers, tanners and rattan workers, who make up the voting strength of the district, being at present unincumbered in many instances even with the necessaries of life, are in a position to listen to reason. We have some of the towns and cities organized, but much work must yet be done, and the Sections organized must do it.

There is another important matter. A notorious believer in all reforms, no matter how contradictory, will doubtlessly be the candidate of the Democratic wing of the capitalist party. He has played every role from the cap and tellsneeper in chief at the wrongs of the poor to righteously indignant stormer against the wrongs of the worker.

Both of the capitalist candidates will "feel for the worker," but it is our duty to think for the worker, fight for the worker and educate the worker. It is better to do that now than be forced to purify their minds of the drivel "Your Uncle Herbert," as lickspittle in waiting to the petty political huckster, will ladle out to them during the coming campaign.

There is no difference in the result between the knave who sells his vote and the fool who throws it away; and we as Socialists must teach all men to use it. Year after year goes by and the same nauseating farce is played. The dumb driven voting cattle has many friends at election time, but the politician party platform, to be in keeping with the rest, are pure moonshine. All parties have platforms; we have principles, and we must make them known.

Section Stoneham most earnestly exhorts all Sections and all Socialists in the unorganized towns to work together. We are in a position to put up a good fight, but we must work intelligently, systematically.

Therefore Section Stoneham invites correspondence to THE PEOPLE and also direct to itself on the subject, and suggests that a conference be held to outline our plan of battle. The present campaign cannot end without seeing every town with a good Section.

FRANK MACDONALD, Box 501.
Stoneham, Mass., March 27.

Shall our Public Libraries be Tampered with by Capitalist and Run in their interest?

To THE PEOPLE:—This question is put before the readers of our paper on account of what has occurred in this saintly city recently.

At our business meeting, Jan. 2d, this year, it was decided to introduce THE PEOPLE in St. Paul's Public Library, and I was appointed for the purpose.

In order to get a written answer I directed a letter to the librarian, Mrs. McCaine, on Jan. 10th, enclosed return stamp, and sent along a sample copy of the paper, announcing myself a committee from the S. L. P., Section St. Paul.

Time passed on and no reply was given. Finally, after the lapse of a month, I presented myself before her, saying who I was, and for what purpose I had come. I expressed my surprise that she had not written me. She answered that she had nothing to do with that, but advised me to see Mr. Munfort, chairman of the Library Committee, to whom she had shown the paper, and in reply had said that he did not want it.

With this information I left the library, and sent a similar application on Feb. 12th to said Mr. Monford, who, by the way, is President of the Second National Bank, enclosing also return envelope for reply. Feb. 16 he applied for sample copy of THE PEOPLE for perusal and promised to lay the matter before the Library Committee at their next meeting on March 1st. The sample was sent, and the result of their meeting awaited.

March 1 came and went, and the "Daily Globe" of the 2d had the following insertion:

"Can get on without it.

"Library Board does not need any Socialist newspaper; offer to have one furnished for the Public Library is declined.

"Charles G. Davidson, of this city, made application to the directors to have a Socialistic publication placed on file, in the reading room, offering to furnish the paper free of charge. The Library Committee reported unanimously against granting the application.

"Director Monfort said that he had examined a copy of the publication, and its object appeared to be to foster class prejudice, anything that would bring odium on people who had property being commented on in the paper.

"The Board decided that in order to avoid discussion with Mr. Davidson or the paper, it would be advisable to notify Mr. Davidson that only local papers were kept on file in the library."

On March 3d I received the following letter:

"Public Library, St. Paul.
"St. Paul, March 2d, 1898.

"Charles G. Davidson, Esq.:

"Dear Sir—Your communication of Feb. 12th, addressed to Director Monfort, chairman of the Library Committee, was presented to the meeting of the Board of Directors held on the 1st inst., and I was instructed to reply that on account of our limited space we have room only for local newspapers, and must decline to place THE PEOPLE on file. Respectfully,

"WM. H. KELLY,
"Secretary of the Board of Directors,
"St. Paul Public Library."

This letter corroborates the "Daily Globe's report quoted above, and proves the duplicity and cowardliness in not telling me outright that the paper did not suit that capitalist fraternity.

If capitalism is O. K. why did they fear discussion with me or the paper? Simply because they stand on slippery ground, and can uphold their social disorder only so long as the people can be lulled to sleep, and by means of the hierarchy be made to believe that God wills it so, and it is His wonderful way that the few should live in luxury without usefulness, and the many, spite their toil, suffer hardship. What right had these directors to refuse the paper? Are they lacking room? Not at all. Around the large reading room can yet be placed dozens of papers. Chicago "Tribune," as well as Minneapolis "Tribune," figure prominently beside our three local dailies, "The Pioneer Press," "The Globe" and the "Dispatch," notwithstanding Mr. Kelly's statement that only local newspapers are filed. Across the room against the opposite wall stands another newspaper rack, where hangs, one above the other, "The Northwestern Chronicle" (a Catholic religious weekly), "The West St. Paul Times," "The Progress," and "The Representative," Ignatius Donnelly's Farmers' Alliance paper.

A public library must of necessity be the collective property of the people, and the Board of Directors their servants. How can they in justice and in the name of common sense decline any newspaper or book as long as it is not proven that it is a dangerous publication?

"THE PEOPLE is not needed by the Library Board," says the "Globe" report. I should say not.

They are all doing well, and the need of others does not bother them any.

The proletariat have use for Socialism and its spokesmen, its papers, and the Socialistic papers will be welcomed more and more.

It is a pity that men having no higher object in life than to pile up money are given trusts that should be held only by sane and honorable minds, seeing nothing grander than the uplifting of humanity by abolishing the capitalist system and establishing in its stead the Socialist Co-Operative Commonwealth, where all shall have equal access to the natural and social opportunities for life and its enjoyment.

CHARLES G. DAVIDSON.
St. Paul, Minn., March 24.

As to that War.

To THE PEOPLE:—We, the Comrades of the East, are always encouraged by the reports from the West and South. It is very seldom that "Jersey" is heard from. So here it is. The 11th Ward Branch, Jersey City, at their regular meeting of March 12 discussed the following subject: "What should be the attitude of Socialists towards the present war-bombast."

A number of Comrades expressed excellent views. It was shown that only a false notion of patriotism, cultivated in school and daily life, produces the present eagerness for bloodshed. Ministers of the Gospel of Peace openly advise bloodshed in the name of Christianity. That the $50,000,000 appropriation will remain chiefly in the hands of the large "purveyors to her majesty," capitalism, and the common herd will foot the bill, which will make about $5 for every family of six, and in case of actual hostilities this tax will increase enormously, and the "patriots" will either foot the bill again or loose their lives, NOT for their COUNTRY, but for the STAY-AT-HOME RASCALS, who have money enough to send substitutes.

Also the present enthusiasm serves well to divert the attention of workingmen from the real issue, that of self-preservation. As to the "heroes" who lost their lives in the "performance of their duty," money is being collected to erect them a monument. It was the opinion that the world would be overrun with monuments if they were erected to all the real heroes who loose their lives in the "performance of their duty;" the miners, the railroad men, the sweatshop laborers, etc. It was further demonstrated that Socialists, and Socialists alone, wherever they have a voice in the parliaments of the nations, raise their voices in loud protest against international wars, as an artificial product of capitalism.

It was decided to urge THE PEOPLE to make the war talk in all its various and many phases most prominent in its columns. Let us use flaming headlines, sarcastic and terse, so that every Comrade may be enabled to reason with "patriots" and provide them with printed argument. The present enthusiasm is comparable to a heated election campaign, and therefore no opportunity should be lost by our press to hammer common sense into every warhowler. FRED. KRAFFT.
Jersey City, March 26.

As to that Carey Meeting.

To THE PEOPLE:—Would it not be well to inform the readers of THE PEOPLE more particularly about how the meeting came off that was to "introduce James F. Carey, of Haverhill, to the New York public"?

The meeting was announced as broadly as possible. Carey was referred to as the "man who in Haverhill expressed the opinion of the large majority of New York Socialists," etc., etc. Well, Windsor Theater can contain 1,000 people. To say that there were only 100 people who admired Carey is to put it mildly. I don't believe there were 80, and of these several who went in with me were staunch party members. The meeting was such a frost that it did not open until close to 9 p. m.; and as the managers of the affair appeared on the platform, together with Carey, the outfit looked a picture of despair.

One incident should be mentioned. Those down-town theaters have the way of lighting the place when meetings are held the same as when a play is on. The audience is dark, the stage is lighted. When Mr. Carey came forward the experience was unusual to him of speaking into the dark. He said: "You have the advantage of me; you can see me, but I can't see you," whereupon a voice from the audience answered: "There is nothing to see here."

Mr. Carey should hurry back to mend his Haverhill fences; he will find that hard enough work; here he can do no mischief. J. S. J.
Brooklyn, March 28.

A Letter from the Committee on Charter.

National Executive Committee, S. L. P.:

Dear Comrades:—Apropos of your communication concerning charter design being made by Walter Crane and your manifest measures expressed in it would say that since Comrade Crane stands at the head of his profession, is a very busy man and commands high prices for his artistic productions, we cannot be over-zealous in our demands considering the very low figure at which he has undertaken the work. It is really a labor of love with him for the cause, and is worth infinitely more than he is getting for it; he is anxious to put his best work and thought into it, and as it is to be a monument of art for the future and all time, we must bide our time. As he intends putting his best effort on the work we may expect something of rare beauty and vigor. Such a work must be the product of thought and matured deliberation, and we feel confident he will make it such.

It would be unwise to take steps at this late day looking to the issuance of any other charter design; for it would be at least six weeks before any definite results could be attained, and anything within our limitations would be decidedly unsatisfactory compared to what we may expect from him.

Since we had written to him but two weeks ago urging the work forward we are expecting an answer almost any day; in the meantime we would recommend the issuance of charter certificates as the most feasible plan to tide over the present difficulty; the Comrades may be getting somewhat impatient, but a trifle more indulgence will be amply rewarded when Comrade Crane's design arrives. Fraternally,

Committee on Charter,
A. C. KILM, Secy.

N. B.—Another request to Comrade Crane leaves here to-night.
N. Y., March 15.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

L. H., San Francisco.—No doubt that, if THE PEOPLE were to be had for 25 cents it could get more subscribers than for 50; and for 10 more than for 25; and for 1 more than for 10. The question is, Could it thus be sustained? The answer is NO. Even at 50 cents the change is a venture. Let us first be as safe upon this new footing as we were when the first reduction was made, before we make any further. As fast as it can be reduced it will. It is not here to pay dividends. What you should say to those to whom you now apply for a subscription is: Here is a paper worth at least $1 that can be had for 50 cents.

T. J. C., Chicago.—If you see it in THE PEOPLE it is so. The very gravity of the statement is a guarantee that it is made upon unimpeachable authority.

J. S. J., Brooklyn.—We are not authorized to speak on such a subject for others; what they may do we don't know. But answering the abstract question, it is undeniable that, if the general vote on the suspension of Dolinski and of the 24th Assembly District goes adverse, an appeal may be taken to the National Board of Appeals, and to a general vote of the whole party.

C. P. B., Omaha.—The term "representative government" has acquired technical significance, and its significance is expressly stated in the article: Government of commonwealths that are too large for their members to meet and directly decide upon everything, and that therefore must elect from their midst a comparatively small number to represent them. The necessity of representative government, due to co-operative labor upon the scale that civilization requires, was also explained. The term "representative government" is frequently used [illegible] that is no reason to use it [illegible] who is careful in his words will so use it, all of us should insist upon accuracy as the only means to establish clearness. Representative government does not imply Presidents, Congresses, etc., these are outgrowths of capitalist government. Neither does representative government exclude the referendum. The conventions of the S. L. P. are representative government. That representative government to-day is the monstrosity that we see is not the result of representative government in itself, any more than existing poverty is a result inherent in machinery. It is the result of the existence of classes. The Socialist Commonwealth, having no classes, would develop a representative government that is useful and proper.

Scandinavians, So. Brooklyn, N. Y.

Scandinavians residing in South Brooklyn, N. Y., and who would be willing to participate in the organization of a Scandinavian South Brooklyn Branch of the S. L. P., are requested to communicate with Comrade C. Petersen, 280 49th street, South Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. L. P. Supplies.

Constitutions in English, German and Polish (with platform)	50c. per 100
Constitution in Jewish (without platform)	40c. per 100
Due cards	10c. per 100
Application cards	10c. per 100
Emblem buttons (stud or pin) per dozen	25c.
Metal emblem pins (gilt) per dozen	30c.

When ordering supplies, enclose the cash; it takes time to keep credit accounts, send out bills (perhaps a number of times before collection is made), and all this time, postage, and effort may be employed to a better purpose.

The emblem buttons and the pins are not send out on credit under any circumstances. They are sold by the N. Y. State Committee, which committee keeps no credit accounts of any kind.

Address all orders to: Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, New York, N. Y.

Daily People Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged	$2,188.13
Edward Lauer, Montreal, Can.	50
Collected by M. L. Morris, Chicago, Ill.	1.75
Collected by Wm. Sanders, N. Y. City, from newsdealers	2.00
Total	$2,192.38

HENRY KUHN, Fin. Secy.

New Bedford Strike Fund.

NEW BEDFORD STRIKE FUND.
Received of Secy., Lynn, Mass. $5.00
March 30, 1898.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at $1.25 per 1,000 or $1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th street, New York.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.
NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS — Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

National Executive Committee.

Session of March 29th, with Comrade Teche in the chair. The financial report for the week ending March 26th showed receipts to the amount of $51.45; expenditures, $154.28; deficit for the week, $102.83. A committee of the Executive Committee of Polish Sections and branches appeared and asked for aid in sending a Polish speaker to the Hazleton region. Granted.

The Secretary reported the election of the new Executive Committee as follows: Henry Stahl, L. A. Malkiel, T. A. Hickey, Patrick Murphy, Chas. A. Teche, A. S. Brown and Chas. S. Vanderporten. Henry Kuhn was elected National Secretary.

Comrades Keinard, Hickey and Vanderporten report as to their agitation in Texas, Massachusetts and New York State respectively.

A communication was read from Yonkers, N. Y., signed by several members and asking whether detectives could be members of the S. L. P. Resolved to inform them that they cannot; they are also to be informed that a New York State Convention had passed a resolution covering that very point.

The Sections in Alabama unanimously selected Birmingham as the seat of the State Committee. Resolved to notify Birmingham to elect the committee and take charge of affairs in the State.

Charters were granted to new Sections in Waco, Tex., and Wichita, Kan.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Secy.

Result of the General Vote on the Candidates for the National Executive Committee and for Nat'l Secretary.

| Names of Candidates. | Sections. | | |